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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACIDS FOR DETECTING ASPERGILLUS SPECIES AND OTHER FILAMENTOUS FUNGI

(57) Abstract

Nucleic acids for detecting Aspergillus species and other filamentous fungi are provided. Unique internal transcribed spacer 2 coding regions permit the development of nucleic acid probes specific for five different species of Aspergillus, three species of Fusarium, four species of Mucor, two species of Penecillium, five species of Rhizopus, one species of Rhizopusor, as well as probes for Absidia corymbifera, Cunninghamella elagans, Pseudallescheria boydii, and Sporothrix schenkii. The invention thereby provides methods for the species—specific detection and diagnosis of infection by Aspergillus, Fusarium, Mucor, Penecillium, Rhizopus, Rhizomucor, Absidia, Cunninghamella, Pseudallescheria or Sporthrix in a subject. Furthermore, genus—specific probes are also provided for Aspergillus, Fusarium and Mucor, in addition to an all-fungus nucleic acid probe.